



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture

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JANUARY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

WEST VIRGINIA - Commercial red meat production during January 2008 totaled 700,000 pounds. This was up 7 percent from January 2007 and down 10 percent from December 2007 production. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 1,056,000 pounds live weight, up 13 percent from January 2007. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,000 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,021 pounds, was down 31 pounds from a year ago.

Commercial calf slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 159,000 pounds live weight, down 1 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 270 pounds, was up 33 pounds from the previous year.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

UNITED STATES - Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.42 billion pounds in January, up 8 percent from the 4.09 billion pounds produced in January 2007.

Beef production, at 2.23 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.90 million head, up 4 percent from January 2007. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 1,291 pounds.

Veal production totaled 11.3 million pounds, 21 percent below January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 71,500 head, 4 percent below January 2007. The average live weight was down 55 pounds from last year, at 269 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.16 billion pounds, 14 percent above the previous year. Hog kill totaled 10.6 million head, 13 percent above January 2007. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 273 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.8 million pounds, was 2 percent below January 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 213,400 head, 2 percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, unchanged from January a year ago.

January 2007 contained 23 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

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